



# Don't Pay to Spay

Project #

22-7003

County: Caroline County

Number of Cats Spayed: 47

Number of Dogs Spayed: 16

Number of Cats Neutered: 24

Number of Dogs Neutered: 15

Amount Received: \$6,770.00

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00

## Project Synopsis:

In 2022, CCHS's Don't Pay to Spay program spent \$6,775 to S/N 102 owned animals. Of these, almost 70% were cats and 30% were dogs. The average cost of a dog spay was \$105; dog neuter \$95; cat spay \$55; and cat neuter \$45. The entirety of the grant money was spent by September 2022.



The Caroline County Humane Society is offering **FREE**

spaying and neutering of pet cats (not feral) and all types of dogs for low income Caroline County residents and Dorchester County residents that live in zip codes of 21643 and 21632 (Federalburg and Hurlock).



**WHEN YOU NEED HELP  
CCHS IS HERE**

**Low cost solutions for  
Spaying & Neutering  
animals**

We would much rather see



Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Spay and Neuter Grants Program



## **Project Description:**

Don't Pay to Spay provides free or low cost S/N services for low income residents in Caroline County.

## **Summary of Approach:**

The Don't Pay to Spay program is advertised on social media, our website, and at our shelter location. Our Office Manager currently maintains a waitlist of pet owners in Caroline County who wish to have their dog or cat fixed. We have partnered with Spay Now, a local vet clinic, to provide S/N services for owned pets. One day a week, we schedule owned pets in the allotted slots Spay Now provides us. Pet owners drop their pets off in the morning, CCHS provides transport to and from Spay Now, and pet owners pick up their pets up in the evening.

## **Accomplishments:**

We were able to S/N 102 owned pets this year. We also received a significant grant from Best Friends, beginning in October 2022, to assist in our trap-neuter-release efforts for community cats in the County. These two programs have significantly reduced our cat intake in the latter half of 2022. We are hopeful that our continued S/N efforts will show an even more significant reduction in 2023.



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## Lessons Learned:

The vast majority of animals that come through CCHS's doors each year are cats - 3 to 4 times more cats than dogs. Therefore, our S/N efforts should strongly target cat owners, specifically owned outdoor cats that are likely responsible for the cat overpopulation in our County. While the Best Friends TNR grant does not place limits on "owned" vs. "unowned" cats, the majority of cats we have fixed so far under that grant are owned outdoor cats. Targeting these pet owners for the Don't Pay to Spay grant in 2024 will help continue our S/N efforts that have been very successful thus far under the Best Friends grant, while simultaneously giving us the most "bang for the buck" in total animals fixed and impact on our intake numbers.

## For More Information Contact:

Michelle D'Orlando

## Organization Name and Address:

407 W Belle St

Ridgely, Maryland 21660

**Phone:** 410-820-1600

**Email:** [info@carolinehumane.org](mailto:info@carolinehumane.org)



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